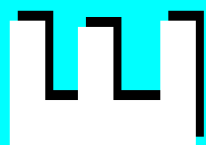
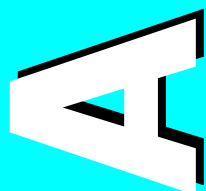
A large, white, stylized letter 'T' with a black outline, positioned vertically on a red rectangular background.A large, white, stylized letter 'R' with a black outline, positioned vertically on a red rectangular background.A large, white, stylized letter 'E' with a black outline, positioned vertically on a red rectangular background.A large, white, stylized letter 'L' with a black outline, positioned vertically on a red rectangular background.A large, white, stylized letter 'A' with a black outline, positioned vertically on a red rectangular background.

To: All Provider Associations

EDS Preparations for Hurricane Katrina

EDS preparations are underway for the possible effects of Hurricane Katrina.

In the event the hurricane causes a threat to our Montgomery, AL facility, EDS will implement an orderly shutdown of all equipment and take appropriate measures to protect the equipment. If an equipment shutdown is implemented, interactive Pharmacy transactions will be the only transactions available for submission. Interactive eligibility transaction submission and all other transaction submissions will be unavailable while the system is down. Once the hurricane has passed, EDS will power up the equipment as soon as possible without risking the safety of our staff.

Providers can call **1-501-374-6609, extension 289**, and listen to a recorded message concerning the status of system availability. Please do not leave a voice mail message as this mail box will not be checked. EDS follows the State of Alabama's inclement weather policy. If State Agencies are closed, the EDS office will also be closed.

August 29, 2005